

## Message Text

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47

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 ERDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-10

L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 BIB-01 /081 W

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O P 051535Z MAR 75

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0875

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0085

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: INFORMAL SESSION WITH EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES  
ON MARCH 4, 1975

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN THE MARCH 4 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE VIENNA TALKS, THE EAST WAS REPRESENTED BY SOVIET REPS KHLESTOV AND SMIRNOVSKY, POLISH REP STRULAK AND ACTING CZECHOSLOVAK REP MEISNER, AND THE ALLIES BY THE BELGIAN REP, UK REP AND US REP. THE SESSION PRODUCED NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE EASTERN POSITION. ALLIED REPS PRESENTED REASONS WHY EASTERN PROPOSALS OF FEBRUARY 25 DID NOT REPRESENT A REAL CHANGE IN THE UNACCEPTABLE BASIC EASTERN POSITION. KHLESTOV SAID THAT THE LATEST EASTERN PROPOSALS SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS A DEPARTURE FROM THE BASIC EASTERN POSITION THAT REDUCTIONS SHOULD BE SYMMETRICAL OR THAT ALL PARTICIPANTS

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SHOULD ASSUME SPECIFIC OBLIGATIONS AT THE OUTSET. HE

NONETHELESS CLAIMED THAT THE PROPOSALS DID REPRESENT IMPORTANT CHANGES IN EASTERN POSITION. CLAIMING THAT THE ALLIES HAD ORIGINALLY AGREED WITH THIS POSITION, KHLESTOV REITERATED THAT THE EAST WOULD NOT BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS DATA UNTIL AFTER RESOLUTION OF ISSUES OF PRINCIPLE SUCH AS THE QUESTION OF WHOSE FORCES SHOULD BE REDUCED FROM THE OUTSET AND WHICH FORCES SHOULD BE REDUCED.

2. AT OUTSET OF THE SESSION, BELGIAN REP PRESENTED REASONS WHY, FROM VIEWPOINT OF EFFECTS ON THEIR OWN SECURITY, ALLIES COULD NOT ACCEPT ANY REDUCTION APPROACH UNLESS IT TOOK APPROPRIATE ACCOUNT OF THE FACT THAT THE TOTAL SIZE OF WESTERN FORCES IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS WOULD BE REDUCED AND LIMITED BY AGREEMENTS, BUT THE TOTAL SIZE OF THE FORCES OF THE MAJOR EASTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANT, LOCATED ON THE DIRECTLY ADJACENT TERRITORY OF THE SOVIET UNION, WOULD NEITHER BE REDUCED NOR LIMITED. POLISH REP CLAIMED THAT EASTERN MODIFICATIONS PRESENTED IN FEBRUARY 25 SESSION REPRESENTED IMPORTANT NEW INNOVATIONS. UK REP PRESENTED JOINT VIEW OF THE ALLIES THAT THESE MODIFICATIONS REPRESENTED ONLY A SUPERFICIAL REARRANGEMENT OF THE COMPONENTS OF THE EASTERN REDUCTION APPROACH WITHOUT CHANGING ITS BASIC CONTENT, WHICH REMAINED UNACCEPTABLE TO THE WEST.

3. CZECHOSLOVAK ACTING REP AGAIN PRESENTED CLAIM THAT ALLIES WERE DEPARTING FROM PRINCIPLES AGREED IN THE PRELIMINARY TALKS. US REP STRESSED NEED TO TAKE GEORGRAPHIC DISPARITIES INTO ACCOUNT IN ANY OBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTS OF REDUCTIONS ON THE SECURITY OF PARTICIPANTS AND CHALLENGED EAST TO PRODUCE SPECIFIC DATA AS TO THE REDUCTIONS THEY ENVISAGED TO JUSTIFY EASTERN CLAIM THAT THEIR APPROACH ENVISAGED MORE PRECISE OBLIGATIONS THAN WESTERN APPROACH.

4. IN LENGTHY DISCOURSE, KHLESTOV ATTEMPTED TO SUBSTANTIATE THE EASTERN VIEW THAT GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES WERE IRRELEVANT BECAUSE THE AGREED SUBJECT MATTER OF THE TALKS WAS REDUCTION OF FORCES WITHIN AN AGREED AREA. HE CLAIMED THAT IF SOME GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES WERE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, THEN ALL SHOULD BE.

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5. IT WAS AGREED TO HOLD THE NEXT INFORMAL SESSION ON MARCH 11, 1975. END SUMMARY.

REMAINDER OF REPORT FOLLOWS VIA AIRGRAM.RESOR

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING DELEGATIONS, MILITARY PLANS, MILITARY POLICIES, FORCE & TROOP LEVELS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975MBFRV00085  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <07 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MBFR: INFORMAL SESSION WITH EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES ON MARCH 4, 1975  
**TAGS:** PARM, MBFR  
**To:** STATE DOD  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006